

Attorney Docket 55121-8805501

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for encoding a signal ~~presence~~ one or more signal presences within a video signal ~~to be presented on a digital display device~~, the video signal having one or more sets of a first frame and a second frame, the first frame and the second frame each comprised of a plurality of pixels, the method comprising:

~~obtaining the video signal from a signal source and providing the video signal to an encoder;~~

~~selectively altering luminance of the plurality of pixels of the one or more sets of the first frame and the second frame of the video signal to represent the signal presence~~ one or more signal presences thereby creating a modulated video signal, and

~~providing the video signal with altered luminance to a broadcast source.~~

Claim 2 (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein ~~the step of~~ selectively altering luminance is ~~by~~ comprises creating

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a significant difference in signal strength between the first frame and the second frame of the video signal.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein ~~the step of~~ selectively altering luminance is triggered by receipt of a carrier signal.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein ~~the step of~~ selectively altering luminance of the one or more sets of the first frame and the second frame of the video signal ~~to represent the signal presence is by~~ comprises increasing overall luminance ~~on~~ of the first frame ~~of the video signal~~ and decreasing overall luminance ~~on~~ of the second frame ~~of the video signal~~.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein ~~the step of~~ selectively altering luminance of the first frame and the second frame of the video signal ~~is by~~ comprises adding a sine wave signal to the video signal, wherein the sine wave signal has an amplitude, and increasing the amplitude of the sine wave signal in the first frame of the video signal and decreasing the amplitude of the sine wave signal in the second frame of the video signal.

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Claim 6 (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein the step of altering luminance of the one or more sets of the first frame and the second frame of the video signal is by adding a sine wave signal to the video signal, wherein the sine wave signal has an amplitude, and increasing sets setting the amplitude of the sine wave signal to one of two signal levels a first amplitude level in the first frame of the video signal and decreasing the amplitude of the sine wave signal to one of two signal levels a second amplitude level in the second frame of the video signal.

Claim 7 (currently amended): A method of detecting signal absences and signal presences in a video signal, the video signal having one or more sets or subsets of a first frame and a second frame, the method comprising:

receiving the video signal from a broadcast source on a detector;

performing on the detector a comparison of signal strength ~~of~~ for each of the one or more sets or subsets of the first frame and the second frame, wherein the comparison comprises comparing the signal strength of the first frame ~~of~~ the video

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~~signal with signal strength of the second frame of the video signal;~~

providing ~~the detector~~ a signaled device with a signal absence if a result of the comparison is negligible; and

providing the ~~detector~~ signaled device with a signal presence if a result of the comparison is not negligible.

Claim 8 (original): The method of claim 7 wherein the detector is a combo user device.

Claim 9 (original): The method of claim 7 wherein the signal absence is a data bit of 0 and the signal presence is a data bit of 1.

Claims 10-21 (cancelled)

Claim 22 (new): The method of claim 1, further comprising providing the video signal from a signal source to an encoder;

Claim 23 (new): The method of claim 22, further comprising providing the modulated video signal from the encoder to a broadcast source.

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Claim 24 (new): The method of claim 1, wherein the video signal is a digital video signal.

Claim 25 (new): The method of claim 1 further comprising determining timing of a vertical sync of the video signal to determine frame start of the one or more sets of the first frame and the second frame within the video signal.

Claim 26 (new): A method for modulating a video signal, the video signal having a plurality of frames, each frame comprised of a plurality of pixels, the plurality of frames having one or more sets of a first frame and a second frame, the method comprising:

obtaining the video signal on an encoder from a signal source;

altering luminance of the plurality of pixels of at least one of the one or more sets of the first frame and the second frame to represent at least one signal presence with the video signal on the encoder;

passing at least one of the one or more sets of the first frame and the second frame through the encoder to encode at least one signal absence within the video signal; and

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providing the video signal with at least one signal presence and at least one signal absence from the encoder to a broadcast source.

Claim 27 (new): A method for providing a gaming device with enhanced play, the method comprising:

providing a modulated video signal to a gaming device, wherein the modulated video signal is a video signal modulated to contain a carrier signal and comprises of a plurality of frames;

receiving the modulated video signal on the gaming device during operation of the gaming device;

demodulating the modulated video signal on the gaming device to obtain the carrier signal; and

providing the gaming device with enhanced play based on the receipt of the carrier signal on the gaming device.

Claim 28 (new): The method of claim 27, wherein the gaming device permits a user to play a video game on the gaming device independent from a source of the modulated video signal.

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Claim 29 (new): The method of claim 27, wherein providing a modulated video signal to a gaming device, wherein the modulated video signal is a video signal modulated to contain a carrier signal comprises selectively altering luminance of a plurality of pixels of one or more sets of a first frame and a second frame of the plurality of frames to represent one or more signal presences thereby creating a modulated video signal containing a carrier signal.

Claim 30 (new): The method of claim 28, wherein demodulating the modulated video signal comprises performing a comparison of signal strength for each of the one or more sets of the first frame and the second frame, wherein the comparison comprises comparing the signal strength of the first frame with signal strength of the second frame to determine if each of the one or more sets of the first frame and the second frame represent a signal absence or the signal presence.